

# IT PAYS TO

Novelized by Samuel Field From the Successful Play by

ROI COOPER MEGRUE and WALTER HACKETT

PROLOGUE.

Did you ever hear of a successful combination of love and business? Probably not. Well, here orders that set the concern on its feet, is the opportunity to learn just there was good reason to believe, in how it can be done. The greatest just the nick of time. Compare all force in modern commercial life has undoubtedly been shown to be effective advertising, and in this interesting narrative you will see how this fact comes into operation. Based on one of the most popular plays of the year, this the business man, the ambitious youth and the trustful young girl who looks at life with more or less of perplexity. It is a story that reveals how the spirit of spair, even when the outlook is most disheartening. It combines affairs of business and home life and at the same time running through it is a vein of humor irthe net result of their activities is that you should never acknowledge defeat while you have a breath to breathe.

> CHAPTER I. A Rich Man's Son.

LD CYRUS MARTIN, the soap king, sat in his library in no very contented frame of mind. There was a thorn in his flesh, and he began to feel it more and more. It was not an agreeable sensation, a thorn in the flesh, for a soap king whose cuticle was not accustomed to it. He traced it more or less vaguely to his meeting that morning with his old friend and rival in the soap business, John Clark. They had fallen in with each other, as often happened, at the Directors' club about lunch time and had one of their half friendly, half hostile chats together. And to make a long story short, Martin had bet Clark \$30,000 that his sen, Redney Martin, would be making more money in year's time than Clark's son Ellery. As neither boy had ever made a penny in his life, unless betting on a football game or winning a jackpot could be called making money, there was a fair-

The bits of business lore and anecdotes of sagneity and trade that Clark represented as coming from the precoclous lips of the marvelous Ellery had finally goaded old Martin into fury. He at least knew that Rodney was a nincompoop in business, if he was his son; he had no illusions about that. But the comparisons had reached a point finally beyond which he would not let them proceed unchallenged, and so he had made his ridiculous wager and must abide by it. The prospect of turning over \$30,000 to John Clark in a year's fime and admitting Rodney's incompetence to boot was devilish.

ly sporty flavor to the bargain.

What was the matter with rich men's sons anyway? thought Cyrus Martin. Rodney's father had not spoiled him, his father's conscience was clear on that point at least. Perhaps he had not spoiled him enough, his mother used to think so. Perhaps his mother, had she lived, with that nervous way she had of prodding people on, would have been of benefit when mere sternness had failed.

The boy had spent more money in college each year than the sum total of his father's and mother's expenses during the first childless years of their married life; not necessarily on fast living, his father was reasonably sure of that, but for luxuries and gewgaws at which young men in the old days would have turned up their noses. Rodney's father had not gone to coilege himself, though his parents could have sent him. He was not altogether self made man. His own father, Redney's grandfather, a country banker in Connecticut, had left him the heritage of a modest fortune and thrifty habits, and in the soap king's mind now these seemed more to be thankful for than half a dozen college professors and their snap courses. Yet there was nothing particular the matter with Rodney's inheritance and environment, there was just something lacking in the boy himself,

Compare Rodney, for instance, with roung Rufus Plodman, son of old Elifu Plodman of the State Wire and Iron works. Rufus was one of the liveliest young men in the business world, married to a nice wife and with a family growing up already. His name was beginning to be mentioned more and more. Then there was Channey Brinkhurst, who took the burden of the Excelsior National bank hand corner there." almost entirely off old Brinkhurst's

positors too. There was even Will J. serving: Robinson, Jr., of the Pine Hill Dye Works company, who had brought in these and a good few others with his got the best of it?

The boy was attractive, too; his father had always liked him. Perhaps that comes extinct. Was the lady this afta little child he had never flown into tempers or had hateful ways. His own winning and noncombative disposition story will be read with interest by had been the chief means, no doubt, of warding off the disciplines of life. He was amiable and good looking in an unobtrusive way, and everybody liked him. To look at him impartially you acter, unless you yielded too much to hope overcomes the deepest de- your prejudice against a slight lisp and an otherwise somewhat finicky way of talking. He did not run into debt now, nor overdraw his allowance, or at any the practical with the sentimental rate not very much; he had never done so much, and in college he had got fairly good marks, as nearly as his father could make out, and had won his degree of A. B. without too obvious difresistible in its appeal. The ficulty. Didn't the precious sheepskin characters are true to life, and hang framed on the wall of his room, surrounded by a veritable picture gallery of college glee clubs and elevens and nines? Cyrus Martin had been credibly informed that you could not actually graduate from Harvard or Yale or Princeton without some portion of mentality. Where did it show itself in Rodney? As a boy he had had his flashes of cleverness and wit; what propensity had been revealed in them? Ransacking his memories, old Martin could not remember what they were; had they been merely the subjective readings of fond parents minds? Why was Rodney so different from old

Clark's boy Ellery? Well, perhaps Clark was a good deal of a bluffer in this instance. Martin must call the bluff and win out somehow in the matter of this bet, or his life would not be worth living.

He rang the bell sharply for Johnson, his butler, prepared to have a pretty sharp twinge of gout if the summ was not promptly answered?

"Any one call this afternoon, John-

dignitary appeared. Johnson took a silver tray from the table near the hall door and glanced

downward at it stiffly. "The Countess de Beaurien," he said Impassively.

"Who's she?" asked Mr. Martin, "I don't know, sir. She couldn't speak a word of anything but French.



Why Was Rodney So Different From Old Clark's Boy Ellery?

Marie was off today, sir, and nobody

ner, M. Rivard." "Has Rivard lost his mind?" muttered Martin. "Was she old or young or

pretty or what?" ladies, sir."

Martin. "I don't believe it. He's nev- thought, might feel like making up to er given any one a letter to me without tipping me off. Johnson, hand me that fat red book in the lower right that he had known her mother. Be-

Johnson did so, and Mr. Martin be

shoulders, and a good thing for the de- gan furning over the leaves rapidly, ob-

"You know, Johnson, it's easier to read French than to speak it." "So I understand, sir," returned the

"Beauchir, Beauville-oh, here she is, Beaurien. No, she is not. A fake, own young hopeful, and which name Johnson, just as I supposed. The Countess de Beaurien is seventy years old, and at her death the title bewas one of the chief troubles. Even as ernoon as old as seventy, Johnson?" "Oh, no, sir. Not at all, sir."

"Are you sure she asked for me and not Mr. Rodney?"

"Quite sure, sir. Miss Grayson was here, sir, and can tell you. We had a time of it."

"Some lady going into business to do America or the Americans," was Mr. would not have thought he lacked char- Martin's inward comment. "Anybody else?" he added aloud.

"Yes, sir," said Johnson; "Mrs. Cheysemore. She left the blank for the Y. M. C. A. subscription."

"I hope you remember that I'm always out for her, Johnson."

Mr. Martin thought it really a little shameful how many times this pious lady came to see him.

"And who else? Give me that tray." Mr. Martin took the salver and peered beneath the rims of his glasses at the bits of pasteboard. "Ambrose Peale," he read, "press representative 'Belle of of Broadway' company."

"Now who was that, Johnson?" "He was calling on Mr. Rodney, sir," said Johnson. "He's been here several

times, but never left his card before." A press agent from a Broadway show after Rodney? The young man's father groaned inwardly. "Oh, Lord," he thought, "what next?" Visions of breach of promise, of blackbird dinners, or even elopements, flashed through his mind. This settled it. Rodney simply must be anchored somehow.

"Is Mr. Rodney in, Johnson?" was the next inquiry.

"No, sir. Not now, sir."

"Do you know where he is now?" "From 1 to 2 he was at a downtown restaurant at lunch, sir. From 2:30 to 3 he was at the horse auction company looking at a new hunter, sir. From 4 to 5 he's at the Municipal club, sir." "Good heavens, Johnson, how do you

know all that?" exclaimed Mr. Martin. Because he left the telephone numbers, sir, and I was to let him know if Miss Grayson came in, sir."

"And has she been here. Miss Gray-

"Yes, sir; she's been here since 4 o'clock, sir, doing some typing. She's still waiting for you."

"Why the devil didn't you say so then?"

"I was coming to it presently, sir." "Tell her to come in, then, to the library. And, Johnson, don't you bother to ring up and tell Mr. Rodney anything, do you understand?"

"Yes, sir. Nothing, sir." It was really faithless of Johnson. the soap king thought, to betray Rodney's well laid plans, but Rodney's father had plans of his own in frustrating them. Let that silly ass Johnson think what he had a mind to. He didn't want Mary Grayson for himself, and he didn't care if she was poor. She came of good stock-he had known her mother-and there could be many a worse fate for Rodney than being caught in her net. He was not sure, in point of fact, if the girl wasn't spreading her nets quietly. The old man was a shrewd judge of character, and there was an idea taking shape in the back of his mind that Mary Grayson might help him earn that \$30.

Mary Grayson! Well, what made young men work? Love, sometimes, and poverty and necessity. The first might stir Rodney up, if not the second and third. But why not all three?

"She stoops to conquer," he muttered to himself. To tell the truth he had heard this phrase all his life without really taking in the meaning of it. Now he had seen the old farce comedy prettily played not long ago, and the hackneyed title of it had been ringing in his ears with rather a new meaning. Rodney might be made to stoop to be conquered-to conquer himself and his laziness of a rich man's son. On Mary Grayson's part it was not else could get anything out of her. really stooping if you considered Rod-She claims she had a letter of intro- ney's mentality and character. He adduction to you from your Paris part- mitted it sourly. If Rodney could find an Licentive in Mary Grayson, the stenographer, what did old man Martin care? He knew her for a good giri, as she was a pretty one, and nic-"I couldn't say, sir. You can't some-times always tell with them French of the widows who made heavy eyes at him from the windows of their "A letter from Rivard?" muttered limousines. Lots of old fellows, he Mary themselves. And why not? Well, one reason for Cyrus Martin was

"Did you want me, Mr. Martin?"

said Miss Grayson quietly, interrupting his reverie.

Miss Mary Grayson was as pretty as her name. Her big round eyes, that were too full of merry shrewdness to be merely doll-like, her dazzling teeth. her clear and rosy skin, her well bred To John Clark, Esq., Soap Works, New figure and attractive way of dressing. made up a whole that old Martin never saw without some inward breathing of contentment. Old Martin looked up at her now with a sigh.

"Well, how are you today, Mistress Mary?" he said aloud.

"Very well indeed, thank you, Mr. Martin. I'm always well," said Miss Grayson. "Fave you any letters for me today?"

They had got into the way for the last six weeks or so of having her come up to the house occasionally when Mr. Martin did not feel equal to going to the office.

"Yes, a few. But there's no hurry," he answered presently.

"Oh, by the way, Miss Grayson," he went on, "Johnson tells me you were here when that countess called this afternoon. What did you make of her?" "Nothing, I'm sorry to say, Mr. Mar-

tin," replied Mary, laughing. "It was really too funny. I feel, as Johnson



"It was really too funny."

said, that my education has been neglected. 'I regret that I was not better

educated, ma'am,' he said to me." Mary went on in imitation of Johnson's inimitable manner. "'Nothing like this has ever happened to me be alone a family of kids. I don't profore, miss, but I can't make her comprehend anything I say. She just sits and waits."

"What was she like?" demanded Mr. Martin, laughing too.

"Well, she was really rather fascinat ing," Mary began, taking her cue from this encouragement. "And stunning to the house by a severe attack of gout, could see Mary's pretty head droopand couldn't she leave her message?" "And did she?"

"Well, her message sounded some thing like this: 'Jedesireparleramon' and spoke again and was pleased to sieurmartinaproposdesAFFAIRES. Je see that she started involuntarily. suisriche maisonpeuttoujoursetreplus RICHE. Sijepouvaisobtenirleagencedus avonmartinpourlafrancecaseralunebelle antiv AFFAIRE. Jedonueraicinquantemille francspour cetteAGGENCE. \* \* \* \* "

Mr. Martin's mouth fell open with amused astonishment during this ti past the spot where the notable city rade. He had once met a young wo of the present day is situated, our man who could make a noise like Sara gravelers came to Putcoli, or Pozzuoli. Bernhardt without knowing more than is it is now called, at present a dehalf a dozen words of French. But adent suburb of Naples. Mary Grayson beat her.

"Well, well," laughed Mr. Martin some 16,000 inhabitants, as it now is, "it's a wonderful language, French."

wild, sweeping gesture at her to show see the remains of the ancient temples that you were out. She rattled on worse than before. Then I pretended Johnson was you, Mr. Martin, and I shoved him out of the door and shrieked 'out." Sometimes if you talk loud enough it seems as if they might understand you, but this one didn't. And then she have to be seen that the control of then she began to act at Johnson and which one can thrust his cane in many me too. She evidently wanted to know places and find smoke and sulphurous when you'd be back, whereupon I ran over to the clock and pointed violently draws it. Probably there are few to the figure 8.

again unless Marie was here to inter- ples. It has not the ragged picturpret her," said Mary in conclusion.

the way," he added, eying his pretty secretary shrewdly, "do you think she was after Rodney? Was she young enough for that?"

"Some women are never too old for that, are they, Mr. Martin?" she said

He glanced at her furtively a moment, as she patted back her hair, looking pleasantly at the crackling fire. There had been a time in those early days, when she had first come to him, to try her hand at a secretaryship, when she had reminded him alternate ly of her two parents. It was in loyalty to one of them that he had given her a chance. Sometimes, in a flash, there would be a curiously vivid suggestion of her mother in her-something in the way she raised her head and looked at him, a sound in the tone of her voice as she said good morning. Such mements, for a long time, gave old Martin a sharp pang that he could not ignore even in his inmost heart. Then there was that even sharper twinge, and a curiously less pleasant one, when she reminded him of her father. He -had been a handsome dog in his day, Rob Grayson-there was no denying

An idea was taking shape in Mr. Martin's brain pan; if only he could put it over.

CHAPTER II.

The Course of True Love. ELL, if you're ready, my dear, here goes," Mr. Martin began briskly to his stenographer, Mary Grayson.

York, N. Y.: Dear Sir-Confirming our conversation of even date I send you a line to record the bet made this morning between us in re our sons, Ellery Clark and Rodney Martin respectively-namely, that if my boy, by his own unaided efforts, isn't making more money at the end of a year from Nov. 1 next than your boy makes, I pay you thirty thousand dollars (\$30,-000) in cash; and if he is, then you pay that sum to me; the books of their several business concerns, duly audited, to be the Telephone 153 deciding factor. Yours very truly,

"Got that?" he added, darting a keen glance at Mary beneath his thick eyebrows.

"Yes, Mr. Martin," said that young lady in a voice which she was evidently trying to make as colorless as pos-

"Well, what do you think of it?" demanded Mr. Martin, breaking a short

"I think Mr. Rodney has more brains than 'you give him credit for," said

Mary impuisively. "Oh, you do, do you?" "Yes, sir, I do. But isn't \$30,000 a

good deal of money to lose on a bet? Somebody always loses, you know. And Mr. Rodney has never had any business experience to speak of. You weuldn't have him in your own works, you know."

"Of course I wouldn't. I didn't want Rod posing there as the boss' son, interfering with the good discipline of the establishment. Besides, I didn't Established 1880. want them all down there to see what a nincompoop he was in business. I've got more pride than that."

"Aren't you a little hard on Rodney. Mr. Martin?" asked Mary gently.

"Are you a little sweet on Rodney. Miss Mary?" retorted the soap king

gruffly. She had her head bent over her work, and he couldn't see her features during this colloquy. He would have

of my money when I'm gone." "I see," said Miss Grayson, course it's none of my business. Any-

pose to have him or a lot of worthless

grandbrats making ducks and drakes

thing else, sir?" A motor bus screeching along outside came to a full stop at the corner. too. The French always are, don't you Mr. Martin, who had begun to pace think? And she had on a duck of a the room as he talked, forgetting his dress. She walked straight in and convenient or inconvenient gout, linlooked straight at me and began to gered at the window and saw two jabber like a streak of lightning. The women alight and stand talking in-French fairly flew out of her mouth definitely on the sidewalk. In one of I told her it was impossible for her to the window panes where the curtains see Mr. Martin-that he was confined darkened it and made a mitror he ing a little, giving her body a suddenly pensive air as she gazed abstract. with the Mail Train for all New edly into the dying fire. He turned England Points; No 26 with the

> "Would you mind ringing for Johnson, my dear?" he asked, more pleas-

(To Be Continued.)

Opening Volcanoes With Canes.

Sailing across the bay of Naples,

This miserable and dirty town of "Is a wonderful language, French."
"Isn't it," said Mary. "So finally we tried signs and pantomime. I made a by the modern tourist who wishes to wild, sweeping yesture at her to show

more dreary or disreputable places in "I told Johnson never to let her in Italy than this modern suburb of Nasqueness which somewhat redeems "Quite right," said Mr. Martin. "By the worst slums of Naples, but is a squalid, unwholesome town of the worst type.-Christian Herald.

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Estate of Amandus L. Goddard

deeper.

"Because if you are," he went on.
"I warn you, you'll have to marry him for love. He'll get no money from me unless he makes good. I shall make a will leaving him only an annuity, the principal to go to charity when he has idled himself into his grave, and I'll see to it that the annuity isn't quite enough for two, let me tell you, let alone a family of kids, I don't pro-

allowance.
Dated at Hyde Park, this 19th day of October,
A. D. 1915.
WALTER D. STRONG,
FRANK H. STRONG,
Commissioners.

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